

PATENT  
Atty. Dkt. No. MRKS/0039.C1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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FEB 28 2005

In re Application of:  
Bernd Georg-Pietras

**Serial No.: 10/621,971**

Confirmation No.: 2036

Filed: July 17, 2003

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD  
FOR FACILITATING THE  
CONNECTION OF TUBULARS  
USING A TOP DRIVE

**Group Art Unit: 3672**

**Examiner:** Frank Tsay

**Customer No. 36735**

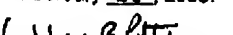
**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Dear Sir:**

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE  
 TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile  
 transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to the  
 Fax No. (703) 872-9306 on February 28, 2005.

William B. Patterson  
 Typed Name  
 34.102  
 Reg. No. if applicable

  
 Signature  
 (713) 823-4844  
 Telephone Number

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED NOVEMBER 26, 2004**

In response to the Office Action dated November 26, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on February 26, 2005, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/MRKS/0039.C1/WBP in the amount of \$1,100.00 for 14 additional claims including 2 additional independent claims, and for any fees, including extension of time fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.